PATENT

January 29, 2004

Date

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, Technology Center 1600 Attention: Examiner Dameron Jones, at fax number 703 872 9306

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JAN 2 9 2004

Applicant(s):

Achilefu et al.

Serial No.:

09/757,332

Title:

HYDROPHILIC CYANINE DYES

Filed:

January 9, 2001

Art Unit:

1619

Confirmation No.:

5505

Examiner:

Jones

Atty Docket:

MRD-66

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

January 29, 2004

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir.

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action dated October 29, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.